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Media Release

Statistics from DUI Checkpoint in Reno Funded by Nevada Office of Traffic Safety's "Joining Forces" Grant

Last evening, several Northern Nevada law enforcement agencies joined forces and conducted a DUI checkpoint in Reno. The participating agencies included officers from the Reno and Sparks Police Departments; UNR-Police Services; deputies from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office; and troopers from Nevada Highway Patrol. The administrative roadblock was held on North Virginia Street near Lawlor Events Center from 5:30 pm – 1:00 am this morning.

During the event, 808 vehicles passed through the temporary roadblock with nearly three dozen vehicles directed to the secondary screening area. A total of six arrests were made. Five motorists were arrested for DUI and a pedestrian walking near the checkpoint was arrested for urinating in public. Four of the DUI arrests were for alcohol and the other one for DUI-Marijuana. Two of the alcohol-related DUI arrests were misdemeanor charges while the other two were felony arrests. A felony charge is normally the result of a motorist having two or more DUI convictions within the last seven years, or someone who has been previously convicted of DUI that resulted in substantial bodily arm or death.

In addition to the six arrests, 28 traffic citations were issued for various traffic-related offenses. One of the citations issued was for possession of less than one ounce of marijuana.

This holiday traffic safety initiative was funded by the "joining forces" grant secured by the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety and funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In addition to last night's DUI checkpoint, the Nevada Highway Patrol will also staff additional troopers on our state's highways through January 6, 2014, as part of the "joining forces" grant program. A special thank you goes out to the Northern Nevada DUI Task Force for purchasing food for the law enforcement personnel to eat while assigned to work the DUI checkpoint.

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